

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend paragraphs [0007] and [0017] as follows:

[0007] The model (shown in Fig. 1) comprises an image capture system which is connected to a fundus camera and combined with an image archiving system (*Figure*) which is to be linked to an atlas of fundus photographs (hereinafter: retina atlas) that is installed on the same computer (...). By means of a program running on this computer for controlling the image capture system which has simultaneous access to the information of the image archiving system, it is possible to start the retina atlas on this computer or on a remote computer to which there is a network connection, to transfer contextual information and to initiate searches (*Figure*). In addition to this infrastructure, the invention claims the suitable selection of contextual information and the application of a method which enables a fuzzy search for corresponding entries in the retina atlas.

[0017] For the attributes give above, images that belong to the same topic range are searched from the retina atlas and ordered according to similarity so that the user does not have to search manually through a large number of images. To take the example of the attribute vector according to Table 1, all pictures are found for nonproliferative diabetic retinopathy. This presupposes that corresponding attributes have already been determined for all of the images acquired in the retinal atlas. The degrees of similarity to the given attribute vector can then be determined and a correspondingly sorted amount of image hits or a chapter or section of the retina atlas receiving the most hits can be returned by means of hierarchical search methods {[7], [8]}.